(iv) Co-operation of Police, BSF, DRI and Army is also taken, as and when required in apprehending the poachers and illegal traders.

(v) India is a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and abides by the regulations of international trade in endangered species of animals and articles. Under the provisions of the convention, Rhino is covered under Appendix I of CITES which bans international trade in the species, products and derivatives.

(vi) With a view to providing alternative home for Rhinos and also rehabilitating them in their erstwhile habitat, scheme for 'Rehabilitation of Rhinos' has been started in Dudhwa National Park and Katerniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary of Uttar Pradesh.

(vii) Raids are carried out by the Wildlife authorities whenever information of illegal trading reaches them.

(viii) Sub-regional offices of wildlife preservation is located in Guwahati to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

(ix) A scheme is in operation for payment of reward to the informers, which, among other things, helps in getting inteligence regarding smuggling of wildlife products.

Cutting subsidy bill on Food-items

1895. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to cut the subsidy bill on food by Rs. 2500 crores;

(b) if so, whether there would be a dual price system of below the poverty level (BPL) and above poverty level (APL) people; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) With a view to neutralising the financial burden consequent upon the hike in MSP of wheat and paddy and grant of bonus over and above the MSP of wheat, and also to containing the food subsidy to a manageable level, the Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice have been revised for APL families only w.e.f. 29.1.99. As a result of this, the subsidy outgo on foodgrains would reduce by about Rs. 300 crores during the current financial year and by about Rs. 2200/- crores during the financial year 1999-2000.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice for APL and BPL families effective from 29.1.99 are as under:

Rs./Per Qtl.

Commodity	CIP	FIR
	BPL	APL
Wheat	250	650
Rice		
Common	350	700*
Grade 'A'	350	905

*Applicable only to J & K, Himachal Pradesh and Hilly areas of N.E. States including Sikkim and U.P.

चीनी और चावल पर राजसहायता

1896. **श्री डी०पी० यादव:** क्या खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार चीनी और चावल के निर्यात करने के प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) वर्ष 1998 की समाप्ति पर चावल और चीनी पर कुल कितनी राज-सहायता दी गई थी; और